canning of meat; Manufacture of dairy products; Manufacture of milk powder, ice-cream, powder and condensed milk except baby milk foods; Manufacture of baby milk foods; Manufacture of butter, cream, ghee, cheese and Khoya etc.; Manufacture of pasteurised milk whether or not in bottles/ polythene packs etc. (plain or flavoured); Manufacture of other dairy products n.e.c.; Canning and preservation of fruits and vegetables; Sun-drying of fruits and vegetables; Artificial dehydration of fruits and vegetables; Radiation preservation of fruits and vegetables; Manufacture of fruit/vegetable juices and their concentrates, squashes and powders; Manufacture of sauces, jams, jellies, and marmalades etc.; Canning of fruits and vegetables; Fruit and vegetable preservation n.e.c.; Processing Canning and preserving of fish, crustacea and similar foods; Grain milling; Flour milling by power machine; Other grain milling and processing activities n.e.c.; Production of common salt; Manufacture of cocoa products and sugar confectionery (including sweetmeats); Manufacture of cocoa products, starch and its derivatives, food products n.e.c.; soya texture proteins, soya protein isolates, soya protein concentrates, other specified products of soya bean, winterised and deodorised refined soyabean oil.

Proposal to close down number of PSUs

*570. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Sector Units proposed to be closed down or liquidated soon;

(b) whether the affected Public Sector Undertakings have had immovable assets which are likely to be affected by action of mafias;

(c) whether Government have not taken action to evaluate the proper value of those assets and have been going ahead for disposal of the units without any scientific evaluation of the immovable assets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) The BIFR is to take decision in regard to the PSUs registered with it. It has recommended 'winding up' of 9 PSUs, namely, Bharat Process Mechanical Engineers Ltd.; British India Corporation Ltd., Cawnpore Textiles Ltd., Elgin Mills Company Ltd., IISCO Ujjain Pipe & Foundry Co. Ltd., Mandya National Paper Mills., National Bicycle Corporation of India Ltd., Tannery & Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. and Weighbird (India) Ltd. Official Liquidator has been appointed in IISCO Ujjain Pipe & Foundry Co. Ltd. In regard to the other 8, the matter is before various authorities like AAIFR and the concerned High Courts.

(b) No such case has so far come to notice of the Government. Liquidation of a PSU is to be done by the concerned High Court under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(c) The Government disposing off any asset of CPSUs recommended for 'winding up' by BIFR does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

India Brand Equity Fund

*571. DR. D. MASTHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is India Brand Equity Fund;

(b) which Indian companies have been provided with this fund, so far; and

(c) whether Government are considering of increasing this fund?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) The India Brand Equity Fund (IBEF) is a Fund set up by the Government to project the strengths of Indian products and services in overseas markets through a brand promotion strategy.

(b) So far, no loans have been provided to any company. However an offer of a loan has been made to one company.

(c) The corpus of the Fund is intended to be expanded largely through contributions from Indian trade and industry.